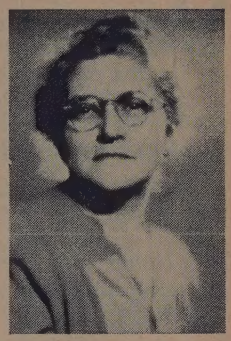
National Congress Bulletin

SEPTEMBER 1952 · PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 5 • VOL. 20, NO. 1

Membership Proclamation



Mrs. Newton P. Leonard

FELLOW MEMBERS EVERYWHERE:

TODAY there are more than seven million of us, mothers and fathers and teachers and friends. We can be found in every state of the Union, in Alaska, Hawaii, and the District of Columbia. We come from every occupation and every profession, from every social and economic class, of every color and every creed.

• What powerful magnet draws us together? The hundreds who join us daily—what are they seeking along with us? What do we all want, the more than seven million of us? Nothing that is beyond our having. Nothing that can be denied us if we want it deeply enough. We want only a better world for children everywhere, and we are seeking to bring that world into being.

• We want a world where children of all lands can play, secure in the trust that destruction will not rain from the skies. We want a world where children have every opportunity to learn, where they are not only encouraged but permitted to seek truth freely and to act in good conscience on the truth they discover. We want a world where no effort is spared to control disease, so that no child's life is needlessly blighted or cut short by illness. And we want for children too all those things that make for physical and mental health—nourishing food, decent housing, spacious play areas, fresh air, affection, security, and good cheer. We want above all a world where every child is accepted on his own worth.

• What can we do, you and I, to bring our world closer to our hopes? Is it a great deed in a far-off place that waits our doing? Will wringing our hands at the misdeeds of others bring us any nearer the sunlight we so desire? It is easy to delude ourselves that someone stands in our light, in the way of better homes, better schools, a more responsible citizenship. It is harder to say that always the starting point is here, now. The starting point is you and I, every one of our seven million members.

• In your community, in your children's school, in your own home you may find a stumbling block that awaits a wise hand and a determined will. Does your community have hovels where homes should be? Is there a new family in your neighborhood that feels unwanted, left out? Is the health of the people in your community conscientiously safeguarded? Is your child's school so overcrowded that children meet in basements or go to school in shifts? Do you encourage in your home a spirit that reaches out in kindly acceptance of all peoples?

• Let us look closely at the tasks before us. We can serve the cause of a better world right where we are. In our home and our schools we wield a tremendous influence. If each one of us should resolve not to let go until we bring one problem closer to solution, what could we not accomplish!

• Fifty years ago only a few men and women belonged to this organization. As the years ticked off, more and more parents and teachers and other citizens have discovered the parent-teacher movement until we now number 7,219,165. We know that countless others share our vision. To them our doors are always open. Inside, they will find abundant opportunity to serve their children, their community, their country.

THEREFORE I, LUCILLE P. LEONARD, president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, do hereby designate the month of October 1952 as Membership Enrollment Month. I call upon every member of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers to work steadfastly to preserve and advance the welfare of children in home, school, and community. Only thus can we move toward our highest goals and win others to the service of children and youth.

• To this proclamation, accordingly, I have set my hand and seal of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

Lucille P. Leonard

Membership OBJECTIVES • 1952–53

MRS. G. W. LUHR, *Membership Chairman*
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

OUR goal of seven million members by 1952, set in May 1950, has been surpassed. We are now 7,219,165 strong. But our job is not done. To maintain and develop an informed, active membership and to acquaint more and more of the public with the value and effectiveness of parent-teacher service to children and youth, we must:

1. *Re-enroll our 7,219,165 members.*
2. *Invite into membership every parent, teacher, and interested citizen.*
3. *Bring all non-Congress units into membership with the state and national congresses.*
4. *Organize a P.T.A. in every school that has none.*

Suggestions for Local Membership Chairmen

THE ACHIEVEMENTS of these national objectives depends in large measure on local membership chairmen. Following are some suggestions to help them in their important work:

Early preparation

- Recognize that you have doubtless been selected as membership chairman because of your enthusiasm, willingness, and ability to get along with others.
- Meet early with the membership committee (including the principal; the local unit president; chairman of publicity, program, and hospitality; room representatives; a finance officer; and a student representative if yours is a secondary school) to make plans for the year.
- Set dates for membership campaign, select slogan and goal, and assign a part to each member of the committee.
- Study the community, and decide on the best method of reaching people (by letter, questionnaire, state bulletin, or all three).

Plan publicity to utilize:

Posters, newspapers, newsettes, radio slides, skits.

Talks in classrooms (to room representatives or students).

Individual calls, either by personal contact or by telephone.

Membership teas (possibly as a room-mother activity).

Invitations written by children.

Charts and graphs reporting daily progress for use in school halls.

Letter to parents, signed by the local unit president and the principal, to go with membership envelope to all parents, teachers, and others.

Letter prepared for parents of children enrolling during the year.

The Parent-Teacher Movement . . .

"One group close to the schools is the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, better known as the P.T.A. With over 6½ million members,* largely parents of children in the schools, this group is undoubtedly the best informed on school problems and the most deeply interested. The local units meet monthly in the schools, keep up on educational problems and developments, and usually cooperate effectively with the school administration. The tasks they undertake are so numerous and far-reaching that at times the local units have difficulty securing suitable leadership. Usually, however, the P.T.A. is a valuable ally of the superintendent and with great understanding, patience, and deep devotion to public education helps to make the school program of maximum service to the community."

—From **The American School Superintendency,** Thirtieth Yearbook, American Association of School Administrators

* Now 7,216,195.

Plan contests to stimulate interest.

Consult with the principal first.

Cooperate with school regulations.

Make rules clear and definite.

Determine awards, and keep them simple.

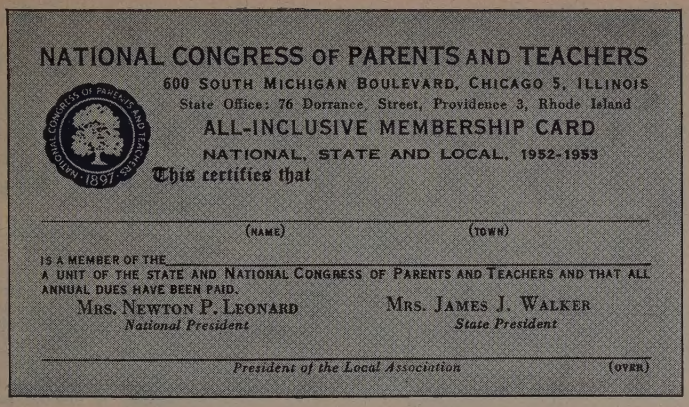
Close contests on time, and give awards promptly.

Campaign

- Start on the appointed date, sending out all invitations or letters and envelopes promptly.
- Check returned envelopes for necessary information and amount of money.
- Give or send each paid member a membership card (which is a receipt for annual dues). Attach year's program if ready.
- Use returned envelopes for alphabetical index file of members.
- Make daily collection of dues and deposit with finance officer.
  (A large manila envelope to collect and record daily receipts is helpful.)
- Do not burden teachers with collection of dues, and do not exploit children. (Make use here of room mothers or representatives.)
- Keep up charts or graphs in halls.

Dues

- Explain to the membership the use of dues, specifying the amount retained by the association and the per capita amount forwarded to the state congress for portions due to the National Congress and the state branch.
- Check with the treasurer to see that all per capita portions are forwarded *immediately* at the close of the campaign through the channels prescribed in your state.
- Send in all succeeding per capita dues at regular times during the year.
- Send with dues a report such as the following:



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

600 SOUTH MICHIGAN BOULEVARD, CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS

State Office: 76 Dorrance Street, Providence 3, Rhode Island

ALL-INCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP CARD

NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL, 1952-1953

This certifies that

(NAME) (TOWN)

IS A MEMBER OF THE

A UNIT OF THE STATE AND NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND THAT ALL ANNUAL DUES HAVE BEEN PAID.

MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, *National President*

MRS. JAMES J. WALKER, *State President*

President of the Local Association (OVER)

Membership information from_____
Parent-Teacher Association

Date_____

Amount of dues on enclosed check (or money order)

_____

Membership included as follows:

Men_____ Women_____ Total_____

Of these _____ are teachers.

Follow-up

- Make contact through room representatives with those from whom no membership has been received.
- Send thank-you notes to teachers and students who participated.
- Procure names of new parents as they come into the community.
- Contact newcomers and invite them into membership.

How to keep members

- Discourage clans or cliques among members.
- Use talents of each new member on some committee, project, or program.
- Make everyone feel needed and welcome; demonstrate real friendliness. (The social hour is important; a shared cup of tea makes for good fellowship.)
- Help the hospitality committee to make people acquainted with each other.
- Help to make programs of vital interest to all.
- At regular P.T.A. meetings use a membership table where dues can be accepted and questions answered.
- Display exhibits and parent-teacher publications.
- Send programs to absent members.

Make a procedure book for your successor.

Include the following materials:

A record of procedure used.
The local unit bylaws.
A membership list.
Copies of all membership materials used.
Your ideas and suggestions.

• Teachers in Tokyo, Japan, are shown here demonstrating their methods of instruction to an interested audience of P.T.A. members. Interpreting educational philosophies and methods to laymen is one of the most helpful services that teachers in parent-teacher associations perform.

WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS ARE DOING...

Training Workshop to Chart State-wide Program

☆ September signals the return to school and fresh experiences for millions of youngsters. And it's the signal, too, for the opening of the Illinois Congress expanded parent education program. Among other innovations will be the provision of a psychologist on every university and college campus to give addresses on parent education through the P.T.A. program.

Local study groups have met for some time—notably in Chicago, under the leadership of Ethel Kawin, lecturer at the University of Chicago and Midwestern regional consultant for the National Congress. But this fall marks the first time educational leaders will attend a special training workshop to chart a state-wide program. Classes will meet on the University of Illinois campus in Urbana.

The program is aimed primarily at improving relations between parents and children and between one child and another. Parents are encouraged to exchange ideas and to consider the physical, emotional, and social aspects of personality.

Education for Family Living

☆ Texas held a week's workshop on education for family living on the campus of the University of Texas in June. District presidents, district chairmen of home and family life, city and county council presidents, and members of the executive committee were among the eighty participants. Dr. Ralph Eckert, parent education consultant of the National Congress, was present for talks and conferences. Panels, work groups, talks by specialists, films, recordings, field trips, and finally a socio-drama portraying steps in setting up a study-discussion group were features of the workshop. The findings were published and distributed in pamphlet form.

BULLETIN BRIEFS

The Charles Graebner Elementary School P.T.A. of San Antonio, Texas, is singing its way into the heart of Texas, according to Mrs. Leonard C. Neely, publicity chairman. A Mothersingers Glee Club of twenty members, headed by Mrs. John Powell as chairman and Mrs. Victor Gallo as director and pianist, appears monthly on a local television program; sings at meetings of other P.T.A.'s, at churches, Army hospitals, and recreation centers; and goes Christmas caroling all through the holidays.

* * *

The P.T.A. and S.C.A. (Student Cooperative Association) of Henry Clay School of Arlington, Virginia, joined forces to honor principal Mary (Dolly) Smith on the occasion of her twenty-fifth year of service to the school. The silver anniversary, February 28, was proclaimed Miss Dolly Smith Day. Miss Smith appeared with representatives of the school's student activities on a television program highlighting the extra services that have made her beloved of all. Dr. Ivan Booker, a past president of the Clay P.T.A. and a staff member of the N.E.A., presented the P.T.A.'s gift of a tea service and voiced warm appreciation for Miss Smith's devoted work.

Visitors from the Far East were guests at a tea given by the Rhode Island Congress of Parents and Teachers on June 19 in Providence to honor Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, newly elected national president. Tadjudin Sabarudin of Indonesia, Fong Kim Wah of Singapore, and Wu Hung-tsao of Formosa, who were in the state to get background for their work with the U.S. State Department Information Service, were happy to have the opportunity to meet parent-teacher leaders and learn about the parent-teacher organization.

* * *

An increase of five cents in state dues was voted by the Georgia Congress at its convention this spring in Savannah. The change from twenty to twenty-five cents per member will enable the state to expand its program and serve the present membership more effectively. Fifteen cents is apportioned to the Georgia Congress, five to the districts, and five to the National Congress.

* * *

Child study is no new subject to Rockford, Illinois. The first "mothers' study clubs" were organized at least twenty-five years ago. There are now fifty-five. Many of them use the study-discussion courses published in the *National Parent-Teacher*. They have speakers and films from various social service agencies, the cooperation of the supervisory staff of the

• Host for the first workshop held on a college campus by the Arizona Congress was Arizona State College at Flagstaff. The congress reports a most cordial reception. In the picture above, taken on June 20 after the final session, Mrs. James P. Ryan, vice-president from Region VIII, is standing fourth from the right. Next to her, third from the right, is Mrs. H. S. North, president of the Arizona Congress.

schools, and the generous services of Dr. Wollner of Rockford College.

* * *

Mary Munford School of Richmond, Virginia, has more P.T.A. members than pupils! As of March 15, 1952, the roster recorded a pupil enrollment of 717 and a P.T.A. membership of 787. Mothers number 462, fathers 307, teachers 11, and friends of the school 7.

* * *

The Ohio Congress of Parents and Teachers has ordered ten complete sets of the National Congress sound slidefilm *Teachers in Print*, which demonstrates the use of National Congress publications in parent-teacher work. The Ohio Congress is making the film available to its units and councils on a "for return postage" basis. It plans also to use it at spring district conferences if facilities are available.

GREETINGS ROUND THE GLOBE

• Year-end greeting cards in five languages are the unusual offer of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). Designed for the coming holiday season, the cards feature children in various parts of the world where native animals deliver UNICEF goods.

Leonard Weisgard, a leading American artist, illustrated the series of five cards without cost. They picture children with a camel in the Middle East, a reindeer in Finland, an elephant in India, a water buffalo in Southeast Asia, and a donkey in Latin America. All carry "Season's Greetings" in the five official languages of the United Nations. A box of ten assorted cards sells for one dollar.

UNICEF estimates that for every dollar contributed, it can purchase enough powdered milk to give fifteen children a glass of milk daily for a week. Funds are also used to purchase raw goods and medicine, with the World Health Organization providing technical assistance.

Cards may be ordered from the UNICEF Greeting Card Fund, United Nations, New York.

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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S.O.S.—LOST IDENTITY!

• Are you in this picture? Our bureau of missing persons has failed to identify these people. Who are they? What P.T.A. activity are they engaged in? When did they meet? Where? Why? If you have this information—or any part of it—please send it on to the editors of the **Bulletin.**

Foreign Students Arrive

Thirty-one thousand foreign students will study in the United States during this academic year, according to Kenneth Holland, president of the Institute of International Education. The first contingent of one thousand students who will be sponsored by the United States Government arrived in New York late in July.

The Committee on Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students welcomed the forty-seven German men and women students on their arrival. They will enroll at colleges and universities throughout the country.

Many foreign students have already visited P.T.A.'s and spoken before them. In Tennessee the state congress held an afternoon of discussion on parent-teacher policies with a group of German students from George Peabody College. Other foreign students have visited state headquarters to learn personally of the organization.

The program, administered by the Institute of International Education, offers reciprocal opportunities for study abroad to U.S. students.

P.T.A. OFFICERS HONORED

• Three P.T.A. presidents have been singled out for honors in recent months because of their contributions to education. MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, president of the National Congress, was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Education from Bryant College in her native Providence on August 8.

• In Michigan, MRS. E. L. CHURCH, past president of the state congress, received an honorary degree of Master of Education from Western Michigan College of Education at its June commencement.

• Delta Kappa Gamma, honorary society for women in education, honored MRS. JENNELLE MOORHEAD, Oregon president, by giving her the 1951 State Achievement Award. This is awarded to outstanding women who, through educational work of state significance, have furthered the purposes and ideals of education.

• This growing list of awards underlines the exceptional work done by P.T.A. members throughout the country.

KNOW THE *Enemy*

PRESSURE groups motivated by selfish or partisan purposes still seek to undermine our public schools by falsely discrediting educational policies and practices. Many of these groups, deliberately hoping to beguile the public, have chosen names easily confused with those of educational organizations of unquestionable integrity. Under these deceptive labels they put out their propaganda.

The National Congress has alerted its membership and the public to such insidious campaigns. It has consistently deplored the *destructive* criticism spread by these groups in order to *weaken* our public schools through loss of public confidence and support. It has consistently encouraged *constructive* criticism aimed at *strengthening* our schools.

This past May the following resolution, submitted by the Maryland Congress, was adopted by the body of delegates to the annual national convention, the governing body of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. It is a strong reaffirmation of the National Congress position.

• WHEREAS, it is generally recognized that there is a conflict of ideologies in the world today, and

• WHEREAS, it has been generally realized that since wars are conceived in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed, and

• WHEREAS, Communism, totalitarianism, and any other form of subversive activity are recognized as threats to our democratic way of life, and

• WHEREAS, we firmly believe that our public school system is the basic institution through which our democratic ideals are fostered and perpetuated,

• THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of Parents and Teachers use every means to alert the general public to those forces that seek to undermine our public schools, and

• BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we also seek the support of the said public in procuring adequate finances for obtaining professionally prepared and adequately paid teachers for our children and youth and for building sufficient functional school facilities:

• ALSO, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of Parents and Teachers warn its local units to be aware of the possibility of being used as an instrument for promoting ideals that tend to negate our democratic way of life.

What You Can Do

• In *Everybody's Schools*, a pamphlet prepared for American Education Week in 1951, the National Congress warned the American public of the attacks on our schools and asked every citizen to do the following:

1. Examine with the utmost care every piece of printed matter that you expect to quote from or use in group discussions—even in conversation with friends. Determine its source. Study its motives carefully.
2. Repeat no statement issued by an unverified source until you have investigated the facts. Rumors are dangerous weapons and are often skillfully used by subversive interests.
3. Urge your P.T.A. to intensify its own program of interpreting the schools to the public so that all citizens will have a clear understanding of educational goals and current teaching methods. It is not enough to rally our forces when a fire is raging. Our task is to build such a fireproof structure that our schools will never be threatened.
4. Do all within your power to safeguard the stability of the schools in this time of tension.

- **Forestall shortsighted measures to curtail the curriculum in the name of either economy or emergency.**
- **Oppose any relaxation of standards in the certification of teachers.**
- **Keep at high pitch the community's interest in school elections and in legislation affecting the schools.**
- **Seize every opportunity to demonstrate to the public that present-day financial support of the schools is still not strong enough to keep up with the increased cost of living, rising enrollments, and expanding curricular needs.**

Mrs. Leonard Hits Apathy

• PTA Chief Also Cites Teacher Shortage In NEA Address

Special to The Journal-Bulletin

Detroit—Shortage of teachers and public indifference to the needs of public schools are the major problems in today's "educational emergency," Mrs. Newton P. Leonard of Providence told the National Education Association convention here yesterday.

In her first major address since she was elected president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in May, Mrs. Leonard asserted that "children taught by substandard teachers are being cheated not only of essential mental stimulation and mental growth but of the example of human excellence every child needs."

Noting the prevalence of "senseless, destructive criticism" of the schools, Mrs. Leonard declared that the best antidote to it is "community support for our schools . . . so strong that our schools will have the public strength they need to function effectively."

Mrs. Leonard, wife of a Mount Pleasant High School teacher and a longtime Providence PTA official, said that "inequality of educational opportunity and inadequate school buildings" are other major problems which the PTA is striving to overcome.

She also said the PTA will continue to fight to secure the recognition the teaching profession merits in terms of salary and tenure. She urged teachers to take a greater part in PTA activities.

—Reprinted from the Providence, Rhode Island Journal-Bulletin.

Please Note!

The motion picture *H—The Story of a Teen-age Drug Addict*, was shown to a group of delegates at the recent national convention. It was the consensus of many of those who saw the film that it should not be recommended for high school groups. They felt that this particular film may arouse curiosity and stimulate an exploratory interest in the administration of habit-forming drugs. The distributor recommends it for adult use only.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

FOR thirty-one years American Education Week has been an occasion or home, school, and community to ome together to evaluate and coordiate their mutual efforts to educate the hildren of our country. It provides an pportunity for parents and other citiens to visit their schools, to discuss hem with teachers and administrators, nd to learn how home and community an cooperate with the school to further he P.T.A. Object of securing for every hild the highest advantages in physical, ental, social, and spiritual education.

For school people the week is an opportunity to interpret educational phiosophy and methods to parents and ther citizens and to find out how well he schools are satisfying the community's aspirations for the education of its oung people.

Charting the Job

American Education Week offers arents, teachers, and citizens a chance o explore what should be the particular unctions of home, school, and commuy in the guidance of children and outh to maturity and what are the esponsibilities they should share.

Above all, it offers all of us the pportunity to learn *the facts* about our chools and to marshall an *informed ublic opinion* against the battery of ntruths and half truths that propagaizing pressure groups have directed gainst our public school system.

This year American Education Week ill be held from November 9 to 15. Children in Today's World" is the genral theme. As in the past the National ongress is one of the four sponsoring organizations. It has helped to develop the program and has prepared a pamphlet for distribution in AEW packets and to P.T.A. presidents. The pamphlet, *Homes That Fit Their Needs*, will be sent to P.T.A. presidents by their state congresses.

P.T.A.'s to the Fore

P.T.A.'s have always made an important contribution to the successful observance of this significant week. It is time now for local units to begin planning and organizing their projects for the week. Since their beginning fifty-five years ago P.T.A.'s have known that children and their schools are everybody's business. They will use this coming American Education Week to build an informed public opinion on the schools, for only a well-informed and honestly informed public can maintain schools that will guide our children to happy maturity and responsible citizenship.

Today's Schools

● "Today's schools are good schools . . . the best our country has ever had," Herold C. Hunt, general superintendent of Chicago's public schools and an advisory editor of the *National Parent-Teacher* magazine, declared at a conference of school administrators and businessmen on the Northwestern University campus on July 11.

Our schools, functioning in a tense, atomic world, are doing things that were not done in the schools of a quarter or half century ago, he maintained. He summarized some of these as follows:

1. Today's schools are doing a more effective job of teaching the 3 R's;

2. Today's schools develop pupils who are better equipped to earn a living;

3. Today's schools hold pupils for a longer period of time;

4. Today's schools put a greater emphasis on human relations and international understanding;

5. Today's schools offer pupils a much richer and more varied program of studies and activities;

6. Today's schools cooperate more fully with the home and community.

"They aren't good enough, however, as all of us realize," he said, "but by working together we can make them better."

Headquarters Highlights

Headlining our news of headquarters progress are the contributions of two New York State units, Purchase and Buffalo School 9. Each P.T.A. rolled up a total of *sixty cents a member!* This is more than twice the amount necessary for an Honor Award. If any P.T.A. in the country has done more than this, the national headquarters committee would like to hear about it.

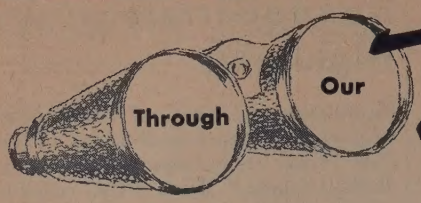
Dodge City P.T.A. members, recalling the city's frontier days, donned cowboy suits and "held up" the delegates to the Kansas convention. It was for a worthy cause, though—national headquarters fund—and the contributions "at gun point" were dropped into ten-gallon hats at the end of the headquarters skit.

A group of *Stepping Stones* readers are the past presidents of St. Joseph's P.T.A., Wichita, Kansas. They received copies of Mrs. Hayes' poems in an annual ceremony honoring them. Last year the award was "gold bricks." St. Joseph's has its heart set on headquarters!

1953 National Convention

Place: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Time: May 18, 19, 20.



Fieldglass

• Our **Fieldglass** will focus on parent-teacher news and information gathered in the field by our consultants. From time to time the field staff will discuss and answer questions that they meet frequently in the states. We hope you will find **Through Our Fieldglass** a lively and helpful feature of our **National Congress Bulletin.**

"WE could get many more men out to our P.T.A. meetings if we could only hold the meetings in the evening. But who will take care of our children?" In a thriving community in South Carolina one of the busy fathers had an idea. He liked children, he liked to "fool around" with gadgets, he liked to work in the P.T.A., and he thought the P.T.A. should have the active support of the men in the community. He felt his best contribution would be to get as many as possible out to the meetings.

He offered to operate a P.T.A. nursery. His idea met with such success that it has become a project of this local unit. A special room in the school was provided, and the men set about to fix it up. Tables and chairs, games, and other necessary equipment were gathered together. Our P.T.A. father assumed full responsibility for operating this child care project during P.T.A. meetings. The older children assist in a full activities program suited to the various age groups. Special instruction and training have been given these bigger boys and girls by members of the school faculty, and they have become adept at storytelling, simple art work, talent shows, and similar activities. On occasion, appropriate movies are shown, which have great appeal for the children. Refreshments are always a feature. The children are enthusiastic about the plan, and now "P.T.A." means a trip to the schoolhouse and fun while the grownups hold their meeting.

Do you have a father like this in your unit who can organize a children's care project when P.T.A. meets?

* * *

A few years ago in a western state, two men presidents of local units were late for an important P.T.A. meeting because bad weather delayed them in landing their plane. We thought that was an adventurous way to travel several hundred miles to a P.T.A. meeting. But now it is becoming commonplace.

* * *

On a field assignment, one of our field consultants was taken to P.T.A. meetings as a guest rider in one of the state college planes. This type of intrastate travel is a quick means of transportation and a new experience for the field staff. We have traveled by horse and buggy, by car, by train, and by large commercial planes. Can this be a glimpse into the future?

* * *

A unique plan to build up a classroom library has been worked out by the parents of school children in one of our states. On his birthday, the child is given a book to take to school as his contribution to the room library. The teachers post lists of wanted books to avoid duplication, to keep the quality high, and to insure the proper book for that age group. The pupils eagerly anticipate each child's birthday, offering suggestions and discussing books they would like to have. This has become a splendid neighborhood project, not only for the children but for their parents, relatives, and friends. Many of these would have no other contact with the school, and this serves as a link between those "on the outside" with those "on the inside."

* * *

In one of our southern states, reaching from the Atlantic Coast to the Great Smoky Mountains, parent-teacher members realized that their state president does a "heap o' travelin'" in her P.T.A. work throughout the state. To enable her to cover ground more effectively, they presented her with a new car for use during her three-year administration.

The two preceding presidents, reflecting on their own experience, were instrumental in initiating this plan, and it has met with wholehearted support all over the state. The state president is very careful of this new P.T.A. car and declares it will go through her entire administration without a dent.

Magazine Memos

• Beginning in the September 1952 issue the *National Parent-Teacher* will publish three study-discussion programs for P.T.A.'s. If your association's subscriptions are up for renewal, don't forget to send along the order. The subscription rate in the United States and possessions is the same as last year: $1.25.

• Mrs. Overstreet's new series of articles is called *For the Mind's Health.* Everyone who is interested in mental health will wish to read this popular author's discussion of a timely and important subject. The first article, which appears in the September issue, is entitled "The Creative Sequence."

• Do you know that magazine chairmen may now deduct five cents from each *National Parent-Teacher* subscription? The five cents is to be used for postage, money order fees, and other expenses incidental to collecting and forwarding subscription orders.

• It is considered a legitimate use of P.T.A. funds to purchase *National Parent-Teacher* subscriptions for the use of officers and chairmen.

• When budgeting funds to buy books, pamphlets, and magazines for schools and libraries, don't forget to include one or more subscriptions to our own magazine, the *National Parent-Teacher.*

• You will give the children of your community a better chance for happiness and success if you introduce the *National Parent-Teacher* to their parents.

• Does your P.T.A. have a preschool section? If it does it will find these forthcoming articles of particular interest:

Parent's Attitudes—Children's Behavior
Why Does He Act That Way?
Sex as a Part of Growing Up
Are We Neglecting the 3 R's?
The Genesis of Good Citizenship
How the Environment Helps or Hinders
Prepared for an Uncertain Future
Discipline—But by Whom?

Urge the magazine chairman to canvass parents of preschool children now, so that all of them will have an opportunity to read this entire series of helpful, practical articles.

Don't miss a single issue. There is no substitute for the *National Parent-Teacher.*

National Congress Bulletin